



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5001

LCO No. 517

00517_____KID

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT ADOPTING A FOSTER PARENT BILL OF RIGHTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) There is established a
2 foster parent bill of rights for any person who acts as a foster parent for
3 the Department of Children and Families. The foster parent bill of
4 rights shall require the department to:

5 (1) Treat foster parents with consideration and respect;

6 (2) Notify foster parents of scheduled meetings concerning the
7 foster child in order to allow the foster parent to actively participate
8 and have input into the case-planning and decision-making process
9 regarding the foster child;

10 (3) Provide the foster parent with support services to assist in the
11 care of the foster child that are consistent with the foster child's
12 approved permanency plan;

13 (4) Provide the foster parent open, complete and timely responses to
14 requests;

15 (5) Provide the foster parent information about the foster child's
16 medical history, general behavior and information regarding the
17 relationships between the foster child and the foster child's parents as
18 soon as that information is obtained by the department;

19 (6) Provide the foster parent, within a reasonable amount of time,
20 information concerning the educational history, life experiences and
21 placement circumstances of the foster child;

22 (7) Provide the foster parent information on all department policies
23 and procedures that relate to the role of a foster parent;

24 (8) Provide the foster parent appropriate training to enhance
25 relevant skills and abilities of the foster parent;

26 (9) Provide the foster parent (A) information on how to receive
27 services, and (B) contact information that allows the foster parent to
28 contact the department on a twenty-four-hour-a-day, seven-day-a-
29 week basis;

30 (10) Provide confidential treatment regarding allegations of abuse
31 involving a member of the foster family, provided such confidentiality
32 does not interfere with the safety of a child;

33 (11) Provide an opportunity for the foster parent to be heard
34 regarding department decisions and practices, and not retaliate
35 against, discharge or threaten the foster parent for questioning or
36 appealing the decisions or practices of the department; and

37 (12) Provide the foster parent a copy of the foster parent bill of
38 rights upon request and when a child is placed in foster care with the
39 foster parent.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section
-----------	------------------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To adopt a foster parent bill of rights.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]